

**Abstract:**

Planar optical waveguide comprising  
a core region and  
a cladding region comprising a photonic crystal material,  
said photonic crystal material having a lattice of column elements, wherein at least a  
number of said column elements are elongated substantially in an axial direction for said  
core region.

The invention also relates to optical devices comprising planar optical waveguides and  
methods of making waveguides and optical devices.